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Resume



Newsletter

GRADUATE SCHOOL ★ USDA

CALENDAR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Subject</u>
March 27	lecture	Howard Dawson	Education
April 2	luncheon	Ralph F. Fuchs (American Assn. of University Professors)	
April 3	lecture	Carl C. Taylor	Religion
April 10	lecture	Bushrod Allin	Politics
April 17	lecture	Russell Lord	Literature

March 29, 1957

To the Faculty, Committee Members and others associated with the Graduate School:

A former member of our official family came back this month to share with us some of the memorable aspects of his work as head of a great international agency.

I am sure those of you who attended the faculty luncheon, March 5, agree with me that it was a rare privilege to hear P. V. Cardon's report on the two years he served as Director-General of the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization.

He mentioned talks with Nasser, Nehru, Queen Julianna of The Netherlands, President Einaudi of Italy. These gave him an opportunity to see the problems of each country through a different lens--the eyes of the nation's leader. And he was impressed by the fact that while historical backgrounds differed, the fundamental problems were the same--soil, crops, pests, water.

A strong advocate of technical assistance, Dr. Cardon emphasized the importance of fitting technical programs into human activity. "We haven't laid enough stress on concurrent social and economic progress," he said. "There must be a meshing of gears whether in the valleys of the Nile or the Jordan or the waters that flow out of Kashmir. We're still relatively weak in understanding social problems. What about the people, the conditions in which they work, survive, and grow?"

Dr. Cardon spoke of the toughness of the job of directing a staff of people from 55 different nations and of the social demands that go with ambassadorial rank. There was never time enough, he said to get out on the land, into the villages, and into the laboratories, to have contact with the people themselves. And that was the part of the work that appealed most strongly to him. But his experience as Director-General reinforced his faith in the promise of the organization that he helped to found.

An optimistic outlook on three tough questions--"billion dollar" questions--is how we might sum up the second half of the lecture series on the conservation of natural resources. The questions:

Will there be an actual shortage of water to meet the needs of our expanding economy in the foreseeable future?

Can we get rid of agricultural surpluses?

Can we evolve a continuing policy of conservation that gives the public adequate protection and continues to respect the rights of the individual?

The answers were developed in lectures by Edward A. Ackerman, director of the water resources program of Resources for the Future, Inc., O. V. Wells, administrator of Agricultural Marketing Service, and George H. Dykhuizen, professor of philosophy at the University of Vermont.

On the first, Dr. Ackerman said there will be shortages of water in some areas that now have supplies but there will be no national shortage. His forecast for 1975 is based on the fact that we are now consuming about one-seventh of the annual run-off of surface water and have other resources on which to draw. Among the difficulties that need to be studied--and can be solved at a cost--are: (1) transportation of water from areas of plentiful supply to drought areas; (2) legal restrictions on the transportation of water across State lines; (3) modification of the weather; (4) desalting sea water. There are many other lesser goals for scientific effort to make better use of our water resources. Dr. Ackerman underscored the point that wise use calls for multiple-purpose planning so that water can serve municipal, agricultural, industrial, and recreational needs. The extent of these varied uses is limited only by the sky and the oceans and the technical ability of man.

On the second question, Dr. Wells noted that farm surpluses can be viewed as this nation's potential productivity and ability to serve growing needs for food and fiber as population continues to increase. He thinks that agricultural production can be brought into better balance with demand through research to step up efficiency and to enhance commodities at every step along the production and processing line. And the demand can be greatly strengthened through aggressive promotion and salesmanship.

On the third question, Dr. Dykhuizen reviewed the changing concepts of both the role of the individual and of the public in our conservation policies. This highlighted the increasing concern with the use of these resources for the public good. He reminded us that each generation must examine and restate the ideas of democracy anew. And he reminded us also that we have effective devices for protecting both public interest and the rights of the individual. The first is by clear lines of communication that keep the public well informed of goals and programs. The second is broad participation in which the individual helps to draw up conservation policies and programs.

Warren T. White, assistant vice president of the Seaboard Air Line Railroad, who spoke on Conservation of Natural Resources in the South, February 6, has supplied us with mimeographed copies of his talk. We have mimeographed Dr. Dykhuizen's talk and have a limited supply available. These may be obtained in the Graduate School office.

Classes during work hours have long been urged by employees who find it difficult to attend evening courses.

The nearest we have come to that goal is in an arrangement with certain agencies to give credit for in-service training. (See p. 17 of the 1956-57 catalog.) Under this plan, the agency provides us with full information on the systematic training to be given and the qualifications of the instructors. We determine whether these meet academic standards and fix the credits to be allowed. The students pay us a registration fee of \$5 per course

and we supply transcripts of the credits if they wish to transfer them to other institutions. The credits can also be applied toward certificates of accomplishment awarded by the Graduate School.

We now have arrangements with three USDA agencies--Forest Service, Federal Extension Service, and the Agricultural Research Service. Most recent course to be added to the program is a three-month course in Plant Protection now in progress at the Agricultural Research Center. Teacher is W. W. Diehl. Students are foreign trainees.

If you are taking part in a training course--either as a student or an instructor--you may wish to discuss this plan with your training officer.

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Here is the latest statistical picture of spring enrollment. The Department of Languages with 35 classes and 597 students continues to hold a long established lead in size. The Department of Office Techniques and Operations has the largest registration per class--22 students. Average for the school is 15. We cancelled 52 courses with a registration of 199. Of these, 53 transferred to active courses. Our roster of 153 classes this semester includes 16 at the National Institutes of Health. Total enrollment of 2,631 represents an increase of 4.69 over registration for the spring semester of 1956.

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Those of us who garden are nudged into making plans early by the seed catalogs that begin to arrive right after Christmas. Those who teach get a similar nudge at this time of year--the publishers lists of new books. This is by way of reminding you that Vera Jensen of the Graduate School will be glad to help you get examination copies of new texts you may wish to consider. Miss Jensen will also order other books you may wish to buy through the Book Store discount.

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Three new courses, approved by the Committee on Mathematics and Statistics, February 18, are: (1) in statistics covering both the introduction and general principles to be given at Plant Industry Station at Beltsville; (2) in elementary mathematics for beginning statisticians, which may be offered first this coming summer; and (3) a 3-hour course in mathematical economics, as a sequel to Mathematics for Economists.

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Elbridge C. Purdy, who has served as liaison for the Graduate School in setting up photo-composing courses for Columbia Typographic Union No. 101, reported to the Sub-Committee on Photography that the courses are going well. The Union has guaranteed 24 students for the next semester and plans to underwrite as many students as the Graduate School can accommodate over the next five years.

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William C. McHenry will serve as faculty adviser to the Photographic Roundtable for the period beginning in the fall of 1957. The post is rotated among the instructors in photography. Edward S. Cobb, present adviser, tells us that opening the group to others than past or present students has revitalized the activity. An outsider may join the club for one year. To continue his membership he must take courses in the Graduate School.

AMONG OURSELVES

Teaching by example is the rule rather than the exception in the Graduate School, where our instructors spend their work hours practicing the skills they teach in the evening.

And last month we had another instance of the high standards our instructors set for their students. This was in the picture that won first place in the Freedom Foundation's award for the best patriotic picture of the year.

The photographer was Martin H. Miller, who teaches the Graduate School course, "Better Pictures Through Composition."

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Pat McGerr will join other mystery writers in a fund raising "whodunit" dinner at the Shoreham, March 21. Proceeds of the dinner will go to the Institute for Cancer Research.

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An inventive and prolific producer, working in many media, is how the art critic of the EVENING STAR describes Pietro Lazzari in reporting his current one-man show at the Franz Bader Gallery, 1705 G Street.

For a concise round-up of population and land area statistics, we refer you to a transcript of The Georgetown University Forum, December 9, 1956. The subject was, "Is the United States A 'Have-Not' Nation". One of the four participants was Reginald Hainsworth, economic geographer of the Foreign Agricultural Service, and associated with the Graduate School since 1938.

Sincerely,



T. Roy Reid
Director